

2. (Amended) A ceramic heater comprising:

a ceramic substrate, on a surface of which or inside which, a heating element pattern is formed,

wherein said ceramic heater is constituted to have a structure such that a face of said ceramic substrate on which no heating element is formed or one face of said ceramic substrate is made to be a heating surface,

a convex body or a convex portion is formed on the surface of said ceramic substrate, and

an object to be heated can be held apart from said heating surface and heated.

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**Please add the following new claims:**

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15. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising:

a through hole, in which a supporting pin configured to hold the object to be heated is passed through, is formed in said ceramic substrate.

16. (New) The ceramic heater according to any of claim 1 or 2, wherein said convex body or said convex portion is configured to hold the object to be heated 5 to 5000  $\mu\text{m}$  apart from the surface or the heating surface of said ceramic substrate.

17. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises at least one of nitride ceramics, carbide ceramics, and oxide ceramics.

18. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises impurity elements or sintering aids.

19. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises a rare earth element oxide.

20. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises 0.1 to 10% by weight of sintering aids.

21. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises yttrium.

22. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises 200 to 5000 ppm of carbon.

23. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic heater is configured to be used at a temperature of 100 °C or higher.

24. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ceramic heater is configured to be used at a temperature of 200°C or higher.

25. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said heating element pattern comprises a metal foil or a metal wire.

26. (New) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said heating element pattern comprises metal particles or a conductive ceramic.

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#### **REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the present supplemental amendment and the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 15-26 are presently active in this application, Claims 3-14 having been canceled, and Claims 15-26 having been added by the present amendment.

In the Official Action Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawanabe et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,133,557) in view of Muka (U.S. Pat. No. 5,854,468) or Tamagawa et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,777,838).